

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:872
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2005
CONSUMPTION OF GOLD
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the consumption of gold assessed in the country during each of the last three years;
- (b) the quantity of gold produced in the country to meet the requirement and quantity imported during the last three years; and
- (c) the details of the measures taken to increase the production of gold in the country to reduce the gap between demand and supply of gold?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) Gold in the country is mainly consumed in unorganized sector. Therefore, there are no firm estimates of consumption of gold in the country. Very rough estimates suggest that consumption of gold in India is about 800 tonnes per annum.

(b) The quantity of gold produced in the country and quantity imported during the period from 2001-02 to 2003-04 is given below:-

Year Quantity produced (in Kilogram) Quantity imported (in Kilogram)

2001-2002	2810	471407
2002-2003	3153	606662
2003-2004	3363	766596

(c) Government of India has issued a number of reconnaissance permits for exploration of gold. Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited(HGML), a Government of Karnataka Undertaking, is the only company in the country which has been entrusted with the task of production of gold. HGML has informed that the company has taken steps like modernization/expansion of its mines and mills, deepening of shafts, exploratory surface/underground diamond drilling, opening up of new satellite mines, searching new gold bearing areas under the reconnaissance permit/prospecting licenses etc. in order to boost the production of gold.